THE SHAKERITE

June 3, 2008 • Volume 78 • Issue 9 • Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

Spray-painting the line between Graffiti and Art

After threatening graffiti towards an administrator covered a stop sign during Senior Week, Limelight delves into the difference between graffiti and art.

Limelight, Page 7

THIS SHAKERITE?

THE NOTORIOUS HAND GESTURE THAT HAS CAPTIVATED SHAKER STUDENTS THIS YEAR IS INVESTIGATED BY THE BEAT. SEE WHAT THE NEW DEFINITION OF 'GOT' YOU MEANS AND THE BEST WAYS TO 'GET' YOUR FRIENDS!

PAGE 16

SUMMER CONCERTS

LIMELIGHT EXPLORES SEVERAL CONCERTS COMING TO CLEVELAND THIS SUMMER THAT YOU JUST CAN'T MISS!

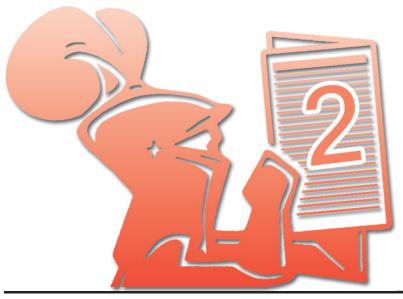
PAGE 8

SENIORS, TENTS, AND GREEN PARTY T-SHIRTS

NOTEWORTHY QUESTIONS THE ALCOHOL INNUENDO IN THIS YEAR'S SENIOR LAWN DAY T-SHIRTS, AND THE SENIORS EXPLAIN THEMSELVES.

PAGE 4

SENIORITE, PAGE 4



COVER SHOT

Junior Joseph Billups consults Graphics teacher Keaf Holliday about an airbrushing assignment in the basement Graphics room. Airbrushing, rather than graffiti, is an art form taught at Shaker. Photo by Diana Jack.

What's Inside

06.03.08

EDITORS' NOTE

Looking forward

We are about to embark upon the most rigorous, challenging, high-stress, application-filled year of our lives. Despite the common misconception that junior year is the most difficult year of high school, we believe that senior year will truly define who we are going to be.

So far, we've spent about 520 days in high school. Arriving around 7:30 in the morning, struggling to find a parking spot, trudging to class day after day and listening to the endless drone of your history teacher can wear you out after three years.

DIANA JACK

Some days are better than others—you know those Mondays that you don't remember are early dismissal days? Yeah, those—but during the rest, school can feel like a prison cell.

We have survived Terra Novas, OGTs, PSATs, SATs, ACTs and AP testing. Yes, the acronyms can really get to you. We've put up with teachers forgetting flex nights, and parents screaming in your face at one in the morning to go to bed, even though you just started your homework an hour ago.

ALEXA SYKES

Not to say that high school hasn't been an adventure. From hockey games to homecoming and Mr. Hutch's inspirational speeches at the beginning and end of every school year (Welcome to the Big House!), high school has taught us more than calculus and European history; it has unveiled our individual strengths, weaknesses and interests, all of which culminate with the college application process.

The college application process puts high school into perspective—what you've accomplished, and what you hope to achieve in the future. Your name, age, address, GPA, test scores, extracurricular activities, hobbies and interests, parents' income, and your plan for the rest of your life are the only things you can tell colleges about yourself. Then, you hope for the best.

Watching this past year's seniors apply to college was one of the scariest things either of us has observed, because we know that it's going to be us next. And, it's getting harder to get into the schools that once seemed so attainable.

But beyond all of the stress that we are about to endure, there is excitement for the future. What once seemed so far off is now just a year away. Yet, high school is far from over.

Seven more AP classes, senior girl t-shirts, skip days, the lounge (which will hopefully get a makeover soon), and watching frantic 14-year-olds scramble through the hallways of Shaker Heights High School for the first time will be the breath of fresh air on top of that overwhelming pile of applications.

Having survived so much and looking forward to a year of change, we want to take what we've learned and witnessed and apply it as students and new editors in chief. For the upcoming seniors, we hope you share our excitement. And for the rest of the school, we hope your high school years are as hectic, but enjoyable as ours have been.

With the anticipation of next year building as quickly as this school year comes to a close, we still have three action-packed months of summer before all of the intensity of senior year begins.

So, whip out your bikinis and your assigned summer reading, and reflect on how far you've come and how far you have left to go.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL CLINCHES LEL

THE SHAKER WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM CLINCHED THE LEL MAY 10, THE FIRST TIME THE LADY RAIDERS HAVE DONE SO IN THE LAST TEN YEARS. KATHY PETER LED THE TEAM TO A 12-0 VICTORY OVER EASTLAKE NORTH. THE LADY RAIDERS SEEM OPTIMISTIC ABOUT CARRYING THESE IMPROVEMENTS INTO FUTURE SEASONS. HEAD OVER TO RAIDER ZONE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THEIR END OF SEASON WINS!

PAGE 20

FROM PLAYER TO PODIUM

SENIOR LAUREN CHAPMAN TOOK A STAB AT COMPOSING FOR HER LAST ORCHESTRA CONCERT. 'BUTTERFLY,' HER THREE MINUTE PIECE, WAS A BREAK WITH THE ORDINARY. HEAD TO LIMELIGHT TO GET HER VIEW ON TAKING THE LEAD!

PAGE 7

SCHOOL SUPPORTS CAFFEINE ADDICTION

THE SHAKER CAFETERIA ADDS COFFEE TO THE MENU DOWNSTAIRS, FOLLOWING DEVELOPING NATIONAL TRENDS TOWARD DEPENDENCY. CHECK OUT THE EDITORIAL STAFF'S PERSPECTIVE ON TEEN'S ADDICTION TO CAFFEINE, AND HOW THE SCHOOL IS PERPETUATING IT.

PAGE 13

ten second tick off

1. Second semester finals
2. Second semester seniors
3. Fire hydrants around the oval
4. Finding a decent paying summer job
5. Student council elections
6. PDA
7. Security guards yelling before 8 a.m.
8. Summer reading
9. Delinquent fees at the library/book office
10. Facebook stalkers

THE SHAKERITE

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NSPA

This Month

06.03.08

FUN IN THE SUN?

Nothing feels better then the summer sun on your skin, right? Wrong. The National Cancer Institute estimates that, in 2008 alone, there will be more than 1,000,000 new cases of skin cancer in the United States, maintaining its status as the most common type of cancer in this country. While most skin cancer doesn't appear until after age 50, it's caused by your lifetime exposure to harmful UV rays. This summer, play it safe by avoiding the mid-day sun and lathering on a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 before any sun exposure.

Shaker students work hard for the money

Everyone knows that summer means sunshine and free time. But, for many Shaker students, it also means time to put in work and earn some extra cash.

While several students take advantage of the opportunity to lifeguard at Thornton Park, there are plenty of other jobs provided by the city.

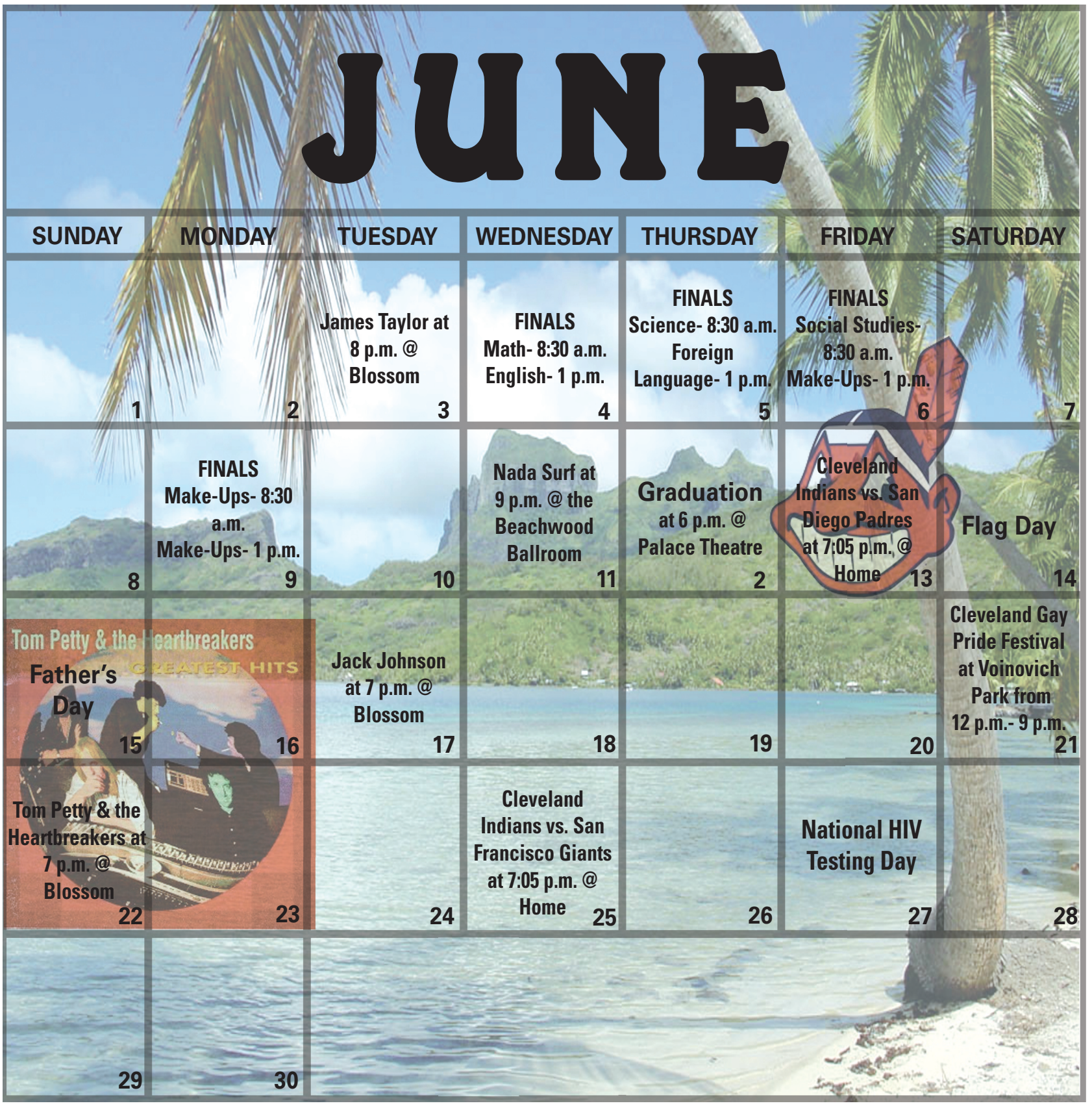
Junior Brandon Hall will be working for the city this summer doing field maintenance. Hall initially took the job because a lot of former Shaker students, including his brother, do it as well.

However, upon further investigation Hall found other perks with the job, "I basically just wanted to drive the gator things," Hall said. Looking for other city paid jobs? Look into being a camp counselor, park attendant or skate patrol.

Searching for employment outside the city? Junior Alex Komp found it at Mitchell's Fish Market. Komp has been a hostess at the restaurant for over a year now and says it pays well.

In addition to her hostess job, Komp also works at The Little Gym. She's been working there for about four months planning birthday parties and teaching occasional lessons. "I usually help with party planning but I think I'll be working camps during the week this summer," Komp said.

While sunshine and free time sound appealing for your summer, so does money in the bank.



Things to do in July:

- **July 4- It's the fourth of July... get your friends and watch some fireworks!**
- **July 6- Coldplay at 7:30 p.m. @ Quicken Loans Arena**
- **July 11- Tremont Art Walk from 6 p.m.-10 p.m. in Tremont**
- **July 17- Vans Warped Tour at 12 p.m. @ The Tower City Amphitheater**
- **July 26- Earth, Wind & Fire at 8 p.m. @ The Plain Dealer Pavilion**

Things to do in August:

- **August 3- Neil Diamond at 8 p.m. @ Quicken Loans Arena**
- **August 4-10- Cuyahoga County Fair at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea**
- **August 8- Boys Like Girls at 8 p.m. @ The Tower City Amphitheater**
- **August 12- KT Tunstall at 7 p.m. @ The House of Blues**
- **August 16- O.A.R. at 7 p.m. @ The Tower City Amphitheater**

Compiled by Abby Schiller

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP LIST 2008

Six Shaker seniors proudly earned a spot on the National Merit Scholarship list. Alyssa Cohen, Alex Grossman-McKee, Alison O'Connor, Abigail Pink, Julia Wilson and Daniel Strassfeld were among 2,500 scholars nationwide. In addition to the title, each won a $2,500 scholarship to any college. In total, there were 40 Shaker students who were recognized by the National Merit program.Saint Xavier High School, a private, Catholic school in Cincinnati, was the only other school to produce six Scholars.

NoteWorthy
06.03.08

MILD SENIOR LAWN DAY '08

• With additional security guards and an enthusiastic senior class, an uneventful Lawn Day surprised administrators

BY NATALIE VICCHIO
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

It has been nearly a decade since the first Lawn Day, but the overarching theme has not changed: school disruption and senior freedom. Despite a little mess and a little rain, the administration believes that this year's Lawn Day was without trouble.

According to seniors, Lawn Day is a time to celebrate their last day together as a class. "[Lawn Day] is a big party for seniors on the lawn," senior Adam Murray said, explaining that he did not want to be completely disruptive; only enough so the class of 2008 could be remembered.

However, not all of the seniors wanted to be part of the celebration. Jennifer Greene did not attend Lawn Day. She felt that there would be too many people, and she wasn't missing out on some seniors' "last day" since she still had the summer.

History teacher Charles Longo, a '74 Shaker alumnus, has been working at Shaker for 26 years. He said Lawn Day originated in the mid 1990s. The event was nameless until about five years ago when the Senior Lawn Day title emerged. Longo also believes that Lawn Day's reputation increased when Senior Project became popular.

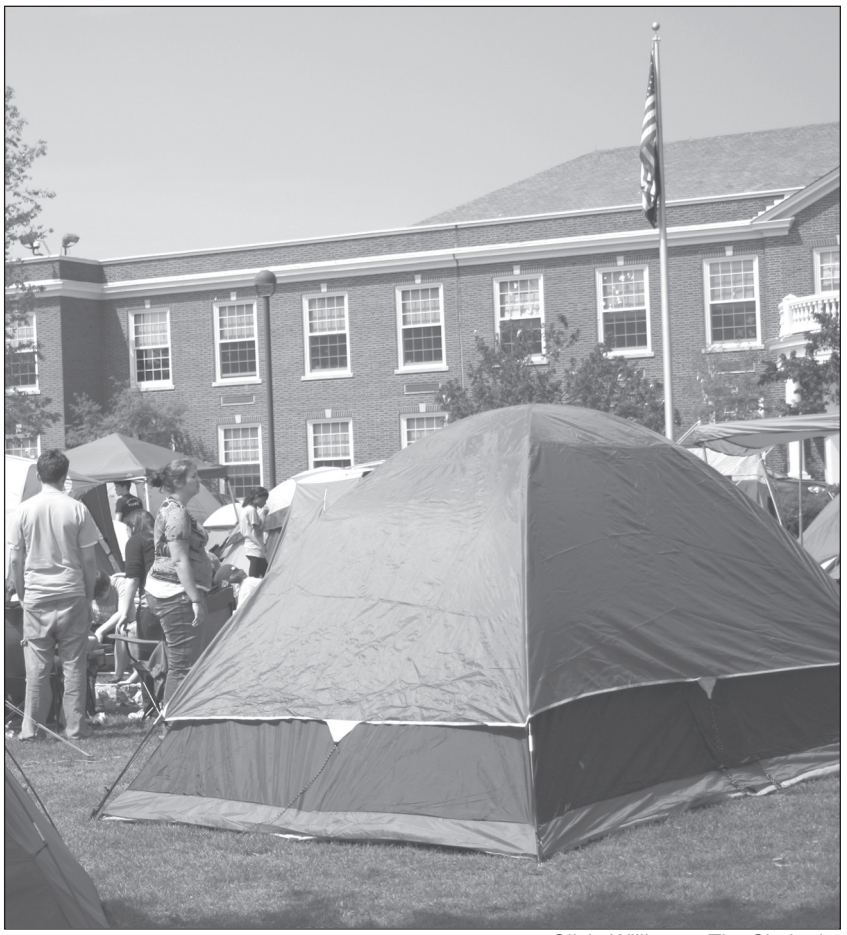
Principal Michael Griffith recognizes the importance of Lawn Day in uniting the senior class. "I don't have an issue with there being some expression of celebration on their part," Principal Michael Griffith said. He does, however, have a problem when seniors disrupt the school day. Senior week coincides with Advanced Placement exam testing and is the last week before a majority of seniors will go on Senior Project. In preparation for Lawn Day and senior week, Griffith sent home a letter to senior parents to distribute information concerning the day. "We're not looking to create a disciplinary situation . . . at the same time, we're not looking for a disruption during the school day," Griffith said.

What the seniors lacked in pranks, they made up for in messiness. The Thursday night prior to Lawn Day, seniors 'teepeed' the building and bushes. The rain that night soaked the toilet paper into the ground making it even harder to clean up. "I'm disappointed . . . there was more [trash] left from Lawn Day than usual," Griffith said. Two custodians spent Saturday afternoon picking up wet toilet paper and trash left by seniors. They used rakes and brooms to pick up loose garbage from the front lawn and high-water-pressure power washers to get the toilet paper off the building. "I would expect the seniors to be more responsible," Griffith said.

Also in anticipation for Lawn Day, Head of Security Vic Ferrell added two extra security guards to his usual 14 person team. Their primary duty was to make sure no trespassers wandered onto the front lawn. If any disturbances to the underclassmen's education occurred, security would be there to stop it.

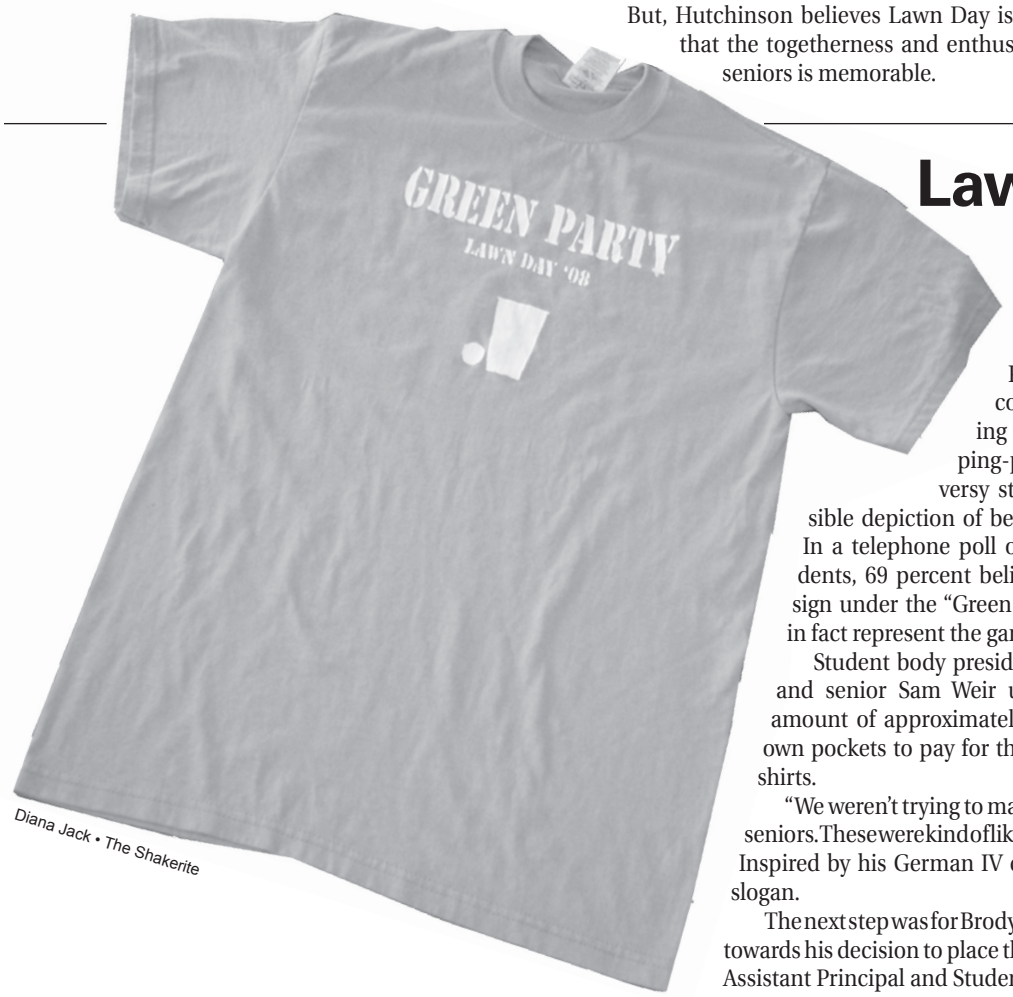
Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson thinks Lawn Day was typical, but felt that "this year's senior class was mild in their expressions." He continued saying, "There are always a couple of incidents that occur and you wish your senior leaders would have shown better judgment."

But, Hutchinson believes Lawn Day is important; that the togetherness and enthusiasm of the seniors is memorable.



Olivia Williams • The Shakerite

SENIORS CAMPED OUT on the front lawn May 9 wearing bright "Green Party" t-shirts during this year's Lawn Day. Security guards roamed the area continuously throughout the day.



Diana Jack • The Shakerite

Lawn Day T-shirts: alcohol innuendo?

BY NATALIE VICCHIO
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

This year's senior Lawn Day t-shirts sported the words "Green Party" across the front and were completed with a picture displaying a party cup and a ping-pong ball. Controversy stirs as to the possible depiction of beer pong on them. In a telephone poll of 101 Shaker students, 69 percent believed that the design under the "Green Party" slogan did in fact represent the game of beer pong.

> "The idea [of the t-shirts] was nice, but I didn't agree with the beer pong logo."
>
> Ben Heide
> Senior

Student body president Hartley Brody and senior Sam Weir used a combined amount of approximately $120 from their own pockets to pay for the materials needed to make the t-shirts.

"We weren't trying to make huge profits selling to our fellow seniors. These were kind of like 'for the common good'," Brody said. Inspired by his German IV class, Weir was responsible for the slogan.

The next step was for Brody to make a logo. He had no comment towards his decision to place the ball and cup design on the shirts. Assistant Principal and Student Council adviser Eric Hutchinson was not involved with the creation of the senior Lawn Day t-shirts. "If [beer pong] is what it was intended to represent then 'yes' it was inappropriate. However, I never looked at them," Hutchinson said.

If the t-shirts were deemed inappropriate due to content, the high school has the ability to force the seniors to take them off or turn them inside out. Head of the Athletic Department Stuart Gilbert also did not recognize the shirts' content.

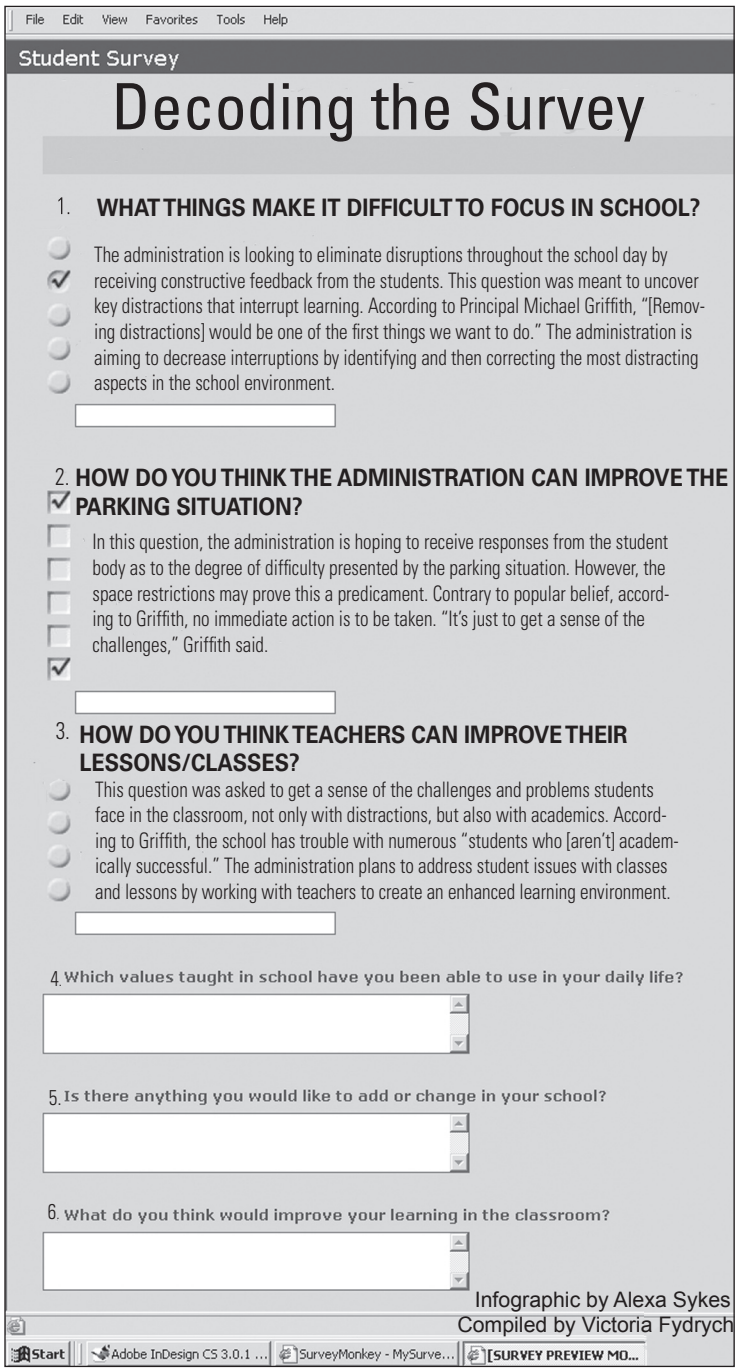
"When I saw the green shirt, I thought the world was going green," he said. Gilbert was mainly interested in the bright color and the texture of the "Green Party" text. "Shame on them," Gilbert said, once he learned the seniors put pictures of a drinking game on the shirts.

Not all seniors agreed with the intended beer pong representation on the shirt.

"The idea [of the t-shirts] was nice, but I didn't agree with the beer pong logo," senior Ben Heide said. He did not purchase the shirt because of the drinking friendly message.

Although it did not speak for him, Heide said it did for other seniors. The controversy over the Lawn Day t-shirts may have gone unnoticed throughout the school, but with most seniors possessing one, the slogan turned some heads.

QUESTIONING EFFECTIVENESS OF RECENT STUDENT CLIMATE SURVEY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Student Survey
Decoding the Survey
1. WHAT THINGS MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO FOCUS IN SCHOOL?
The administration is looking to eliminate disruptions throughout the school day by receiving constructive feedback from the students. This question was meant to uncover key distractions that interrupt learning. According to Principal Michael Griffith, "[Removing distractions] would be one of the first things we want to do." The administration is aiming to decrease interruptions by identifying and then correcting the most distracting aspects in the school environment.
2. HOW DO YOU THINK THE ADMINISTRATION CAN IMPROVE THE PARKING SITUATION?
In this question, the administration is hoping to receive responses from the student body as to the degree of difficulty presented by the parking situation. However, the space restrictions may prove this a predicament. Contrary to popular belief, according to Griffith, no immediate action is to be taken. "It's just to get a sense of the challenges," Griffith said.
3. HOW DO YOU THINK TEACHERS CAN IMPROVE THEIR LESSONS/CLASSES?
This question was asked to get a sense of the challenges and problems students face in the classroom, not only with distractions, but also with academics. According to Griffith, the school has trouble with numerous "students who [aren't] academically successful." The administration plans to address student issues with classes and lessons by working with teachers to create an enhanced learning environment.
4. Which values taught in school have you been able to use in your daily life?
5. Is there anything you would like to add or change in your school?
6. What do you think would improve your learning in the classroom?
Infographic by Alexa Sykes
Compiled by Victoria Fydrych
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SurveyMonkey - MySurve...
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BY VICTORIA FYDRYCH
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

Fights in hallways, students skipping class and disgruntled expressions about new renovations have all been witnessed around the high school. In light of a recent climate survey, the administration will be looking more closely at these problems, and begin to deal with them based on students' responses.

The questions, ranging from how safe students felt in school to their opinions on the current parking situation, were answered through a rating system, which ranked each statement on a scale of how strongly the students agreed or disagreed with the statement. In addition to the ratings, students were asked open-ended questions, giving them freedom to write their opinion on the school's problems in depth.

The survey was taken during English classes. English teacher Robin Perlmuter was skeptical about the survey's purpose and was unsure of its effectiveness due to the casual and indifferent manner in which students approached the survey. Having glanced over shoulders during her classes' survey times, she concluded the answers students were giving were less than satisfactory.

"It [was] very obvious from the written answers . . . students weren't taking it seriously," Perlmuter said.

According to Prinicpal Michael Griffith, the primary purpose of the survey was to ensure that students' opinions were incorporated into possible changes in school protocol and to "check up" on how the school was doing in terms of recent developments and renovations. Student responses were used to convey their feelings on the recent cafeteria renovation, the school's unremitting parking problem and rowdy hallway behavior.

"We want to continue to get back from the students' voices what distracts or inhibits you from receiving an education," Griffith said. He continued that the high school has administered the climate survey "probably three or four times over the last eight years." This year's survey was based off of the survey created in 2002.

"We did [a survey] in 2002 across the whole student body," Griffith said. Another survey was distributed to students in their homerooms at the beginning of the 2005-2006 school year pertaining to student behavior in the hallways. That survey differed from both the 2002 and the current one because all responses were open-ended. According to Griffith, the survey is aimed at addressing areas that require administrative attention.

"[The survey was] one quick way to get the opinion of 1500 students in three days," he said. He continued that the administration aimed to clarify "what good things [we have] that we want to replicate." The results of the survey will be used to address problems rampant throughout the building such as "peer to peer negativity," a growing problem due to students' tendency to take their altercations to a physical level.

"The 2002 results steered huge changes [in the high school]," Griffith said. The survey was not only an effort to uncover the challenges of the school, but also to acknowledge the positive developments.

According to Griffith, relations among students have improved since the 2002 survey was administered. Students aren't the only ones voicing their opinions. According to Griffith, teachers and parents are to receive surveys as well either by e-mail or mail. However, these particular surveys will be geared toward the adults in the community.

"In fact, we're in the midst of doing a teacher survey to send out to staff online," Griffith said. He continued that parents are going to receive similar surveys. A team of administrators will decipher the survey responses and deal with them accordingly. The results will then be shared widely among the students, parents and board of education.

"A lot of people are interested in the outcome of the information," Griffith said.

DID YOU TAKE THE CLIMATE SURVEY SERIOUSLY?

DO YOU THINK THE RESULTS WILL BETTER THE SCHOOL?

Scientific telephone poll of 101 students conducted by The Shakerite staff, margin of error +/- 10%
Infographics by Alexa Sykes

AP STUDENTS AND FINALS: WHAT'S THE DEAL?

BY VICTORIA FYDRYCH
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

Students spend countless weeks preparing for a dreaded Advanced Placement exam, only to be greeted with yet another final.

Despite the lack of a set rule or regulation, students in AP classes are required to take both the corresponding AP exam in addition to a final, although this is not always enforced.

According to Social Studies Department Head Charles Longo, "The school policy is if you want AP credit, you must take the AP exam."

Principal Michael Griffith seconds this. "The College Board says you have to take the AP test [to get credit]," Griffith said.

He also said that, "most teachers view the AP test as the culminating point of the class." However, regardless of the class level, students are sometimes required to also complete a final exam, although this is apparently arbitrary. Under some circumstances, students are exempt from the exam and, instead, are assigned a project in lieu of the final.

Advanced Placement United States History teacher Tim Mitchell, for example, is an AP test grader and is required to focus on that for the majority of May. Since he leaves prior to the school sanctioned final exams, Mitchell's students are given a final project in place of an exam.

AP US History student Timothy Dixon thinks that not having a final is relieving.

"Our AP classes took up a lot of time, so now it allows us to focus on our other classes," Dixon said. In addition to the final project, AP US History students are required to complete an oral exam and two 80-question tests.

AP US History students are not the only ones exempt from finals.

Suzanne Gyurgyik, AP French V teacher, also chooses not to give a final to her students, replacing the exam with a project. According to Gyurgyik, this year, students are presenting French films, including "Le Placard" and "The Dinner Game," in conjunction with a follow-up discussion.

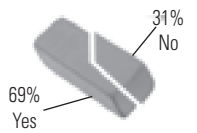
Among classes that do take formal finals is Les Foote's Spanish IV AP class. Junior Patrick Matthews is not bothered by the fact that he still has to take the final. "I'm not upset, because Senor Foote said it would be easy," Matthews said.

In the end, it's up to the teachers to decide the students' fate at the end of the year, AP exam or not.

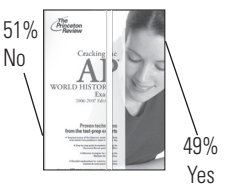
"It's between the administration working with the department chairs; the individual teachers can also make

> "It's between the administration working with the department chairs . . . teachers can also make decisions."
>
> Michael Griffith
> Principal

DO YOU TAKE AN AP CLASS?



IF YES, DO YOU TAKE A FINAL AND AN AP EXAM?



Scientific telephone poll of 101 students conducted by The Shakerite staff, margin of error +/- 10%
Infographic by Victoria Fydrych

PARADING AROUND WADE OVAL

Parade the Circle returns to Wade Oval in the University Circle neighborhood on June 14. This annual summer event that climaxes with a procession of whimsical costumes around Wade Oval includes hands-on activities, live entertainment, street performers and food from local vendors. The best part? It's totally free entertainment. Want to participate in the parade? Call the Cleveland Museum of Art, and for a small fee of $5, you too can create your own handmade, extravagant costume and march around Wade Oval. Just make sure there are no written words, logos, or motorized vehicles involved. And yes, stilts are allowed.

TWO ORCHESTRAS, SAME MISSION: MUSIC

BY SIMONE DUVAL
LIMELIGHT EDITOR

With one offering a vast genre of contemporary music pieces and the other citing its intensive training program as a major draw for the musically inclined, choosing between the Contemporary Youth Orchestra and the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra is difficult.

However, as more Shaker students flock to the ranks of these two prestigious orchestras, the differences between the programs become clear, making the decision that much easier.

CYO, a non-profit orchestral organization, consists of 117 students, ages 13-19. As stated by its website, CYO is, "dedicated exclusively to the study and performance of contemporary orchestral literature." Music Director Liza Grossman founded the association in 1995, after she became dissatisfied with the musical education students were receiving.

"There was a necessity for young musicians to be able to access the music of our time, because it is becoming more in demand to know this type of music for college and for future careers. I thought it was crucial to understand how music is created in [my students'] lifetime," said Grossman.

The group's two-hour rehearsals every Saturday and the occasional Tuesday night practice provide students with an encouraging, supportive environment to create and perform music.

"The orchestra focuses entirely on contemporary music. [The composer] had to be alive in the twentieth century in order [for us] to play the music . . . It's an innovative orchestra. We've played STYX and Led Zeppelin, and in Farandole, our upcoming concert, we're playing hip-hop and R&B pieces," said senior Daniel Strassfield.

Grossman said that this concentration on contemporary pieces is important in maintaining an encouraging environment for her young musicians. "I try to run CYO as a democracy. I use the new music to encourage students to be independent thinkers, and I encourage their feedback. This gives them ownership of the music and of the thought process in how it's done," Grossman said.

In contrast to the laid back ambiance of CYO rehearsals, COYO rehearsals are more intense and demanding. The program, which works hand in hand with the Cleveland Orchestra, gives, "serious young middle school and high school music students a unique pre-professional orchestral training experience," according to the program's website.

Courtesy of cyorchestra.org

LIZA GROSSMAN CONDUCTS her 117-member Contemporary Youth Orchestra. The group performed May 23 at the Wolstein Center with DJ Doc.

And just as auditions are required for membership in CYO, auditions for COYO are "advertised as a big deal to get in," according to three-year member and cellist Cecilia Orazi. Orazi also said, "COYO is a more classically trained orchestra with a famous repertoire and symphonies. It's a really good experience for musicians, if that's what they want to do," she said.

Cyrus Taylor, a five-year member of CYO and first-year member of COYO, commented on the major differences between the two orchestras, saying that COYO rehearsals are much more technical and nitpicky. "It's hard to get caught up in the music. CYO is entirely about emotion and having fun making music. With COYO we're making music the way people have been for the past 500 years."

Many members of COYO enjoy the level of intense, hard work that accompanies practices and concerts. Zofia Prochocoff, a freshman and one-year violinist with COYO, said, "I like being able to play pieces the Cleveland Orchestra would play and being at that level of difficulty. It's fun being challenged by the music."

Though the choice between each orchestra group may be difficult, in the end, great music prevails.

> "I like being able to play pieces the Cleveland Orchestra would play and being at that level of difficulty. It's fun being challenged by the music."
>
> Zofia Prochocoff
> Freshman

Senior discusses composition, 'Butterfly', and its uplifting effects

A tone poem is what I would call my first music composition, "Butterfly". A tone poem is a piece of music that is the equivalent of poetry, but, instead of words and pentameter, it uses musical expressions like tone, dynamic and chords to depict an idea or story. The story behind "Butterfly" is simple: it is a journey of a butterfly flying through a meadow rife with obstacles, which she tries to overcome on her journey.

LAUREN CHAPMAN

I became interested in music composition this past year. One afternoon, my orchestra teacher, Donna Dehn, showed me Finale, a program used to compose music. While showing me the program, Ms. Dehn decided to start a new composition. When starting a new composition in Finale, a title, key, time signature and the composer/arranger are chosen. When I was asked for a title for the new composition, the first word that came to mind was "butterfly".

The story behind the piece was the next step, as I personally think that there is a story, reason or essential idea behind most pieces of music. I thought a lot about the story of "Butterfly". I wanted the perfect combination of dramatic, happy and delicate with a slightly dangerous undertone. After doing research on butterflies and flowers, drawing pictures to represent portions of the story and asking people for ideas, I finally decided on a story line for my composition: A butterfly is flying along through a grassy meadow surrounded by bushes when it carelessly flutters into a thorn bush. Luckily, after struggling for a while, the butterfly escapes. The butterfly continues flying aimlessly through the meadow, but soon senses a new danger. The butterfly is too careless to sense the silent danger of a Venus flytrap, and the plant snaps up the butterfly. The story ends with the butterfly flying off to heaven.

Some of my favorite parts of composing Butterfly were adding all of the sound effects to illustrate the butterfly's story. While the butterfly is flying along on her journey, the tone of the music is light and airy; but when there is danger lurking in the distance, I used tremolos to create an eerie, vibrating effect, combined with deep, dark tones in the bass and cello parts to imply that the butterfly is in danger. The most dramatic marking that I used while composing is an eighth note that looks like a flower with the word "crunch" written above it. A "crunch" is the best way to represent the harsh, sudden death of the butterfly by having the string players use their bows to produce a crunching sound from their instrument.

guest 'rite

The most rewarding part of this whole experience was conducting my piece at the spring orchestra concert and hearing the audience's response. It was invigorating to have a standing ovation, and to realize that "Butterfly" is a success. Throughout this experience, my creativity was definitely fueled by Ms. Dehn. Without her help and support, I could not have composed "Butterfly". It was a truly enriching experience to compose my music with such a skilled musician. I learned a lot from this experience; more than I would have learned in the context of everyday life.

John Fletcher • The Shakerite

KEAF HOLLIDAY REQUIRES graphics students to do an airbrushing project each year. The designs on the board at right were sold as t-shirts at Art Fair.

FELONIOUS ART

• Shaker students use graffiti to express themselves in and out of the classroom, though it may be viewed as both art and vandalism

BY JULIA CELESTE
LIMELIGHT EDITOR

Graffiti: vandalism or art? Here in Shaker, it takes both forms.

Sometimes it is hard to draw the line between vandalism and art when it comes to graffiti, often because the two overlap.

However, the distinct difference lies in the intent, as vandalism is the deliberate destruction of property.

During senior week, an example of graffiti as vandalism occurred when a Shaker student used red and white window paint to deface the stop sign on the south side of the oval.

The sign was changed to "Stab Wessinger," and, although this defacement was not spray-painted like traditional graffiti, but was done with car paint and qualifies as an offense.

Lieutenant Jeff DeMuth of the Shaker Heights Police Department explained that when graffiti is considered destructive, it is punished as vandalism.

"If it costs over $500 to repair, then it is a felony and is handled downtown . . . everything else is a misdemeanor and the court house here handles it," DeMuth said.

> "You use different paint cans to attain different effects, like a wide spray, narrow spray or feather spray.
>
> Keaf Holliday
> Graphics Teacher

The final verdict on the consequence, however, goes to the judge who is ruling over the case.

Assistant Principal Frank Wessinger said that it would be hard to asess what the consequence for this type of vandalism would be without knowing the student's history. "Anytime a student makes a threat it is a violation against the code of conduct, [but] there is not a clear cut response when things occur," said Wessinger, who continued that the administration must review each student to see if the threat is worthy of suspension.

The student who defaced the stop sign, who asked to remain anonymous, has not yet faced any consequences.

However, he defended his actions by saying,

"I don't really like the dude. I saw the stop sign and thought I could easily [change that from stop to stab]," said the student. The student also 'tagged,' which is to mark an object as 'gang property,' other cars during prank week, and has tagged other school property in the past.

Graphics teacher Keaf Holliday explained that what most people think of as graffiti is actually tagging.

"Tagging has the greatest thrill when it is done illegally. That doesn't mean that in any way do I condone tagging in its illegal form or participate in the activity," Holliday said.

He also explained that, "Some areas allow [tagging] to happen, and [he has] seen kids with spray cans and paint markers tagging."

Though Holliday acknowledges the felonious aspects of graffiti and tagging, he views airbrushing as an art form and requires his graphics classes to complete at least one airbrushing assignment during the school year.

Airbrushing and graffiti are different in the traditional sense.

"What we do down here [in the Graphics room] is airbrushing, which is a double action, while spray painting is a single action." Holliday said.

Holliday further explained that graffiti artists use many different tools to achieve the varied effects of this art form.

"You use different paint cans to attain different effects, like a wide spray, narrow spray or feather spray. [Spray] cans are tools at a graffiti artist's disposal."

Ultimately there is a fine line between art and vandalism. According to graffiti.org, artists in New York, like Keith Haring and Pink Lady, were criticized for their perceived acts of vandalism,

Haring, an artist who was diagnosed with AIDS at the age of 30, began his art career creating white chalk drawings on blank paper panels on the underground walls of the subway in New York. Once his art form became more widely known,

Harring opened a retail store called "Pop Shop" to allow people greater access to his work.

Pop Shop and other stores like it began taking graffiti from the streets and placing it in stores and museums.

In doing so, the line between art and vandalism began to blur.

Art fair: less than surreal

Art fair is a long-lasting tradition at Shaker, and, although it was my first, this year's seemed rather disappointing.

This year's theme was surrealism, and it reflected the works of artists such as Salvador Dali and Joan Miro.

Booths were cleverly designed according to the theme: 'Salvador's Deli' exemplified them.

JULIA CELESTE

The courtyard's sidewalks were covered with chalk depicting artwork from surrealist artists.

These were awesome and required a great deal of talent along with dedication from the students in Dan Whitely's art classes. For me, however, they were the only highlight of art fair.

Whitely's Advanced Placement Portfolio students designed the booths, which were a project for the class; the art students bought everything for their booths and the profits paid back the students for what they had spent.

Items sold at the stands included food, shirts and clay figures. The overpriced food was the most popular. Cookies that cost maybe one dollar to make were being sold for three dollars.

The hype for the fair was mostly from upperclassmen, who anticipated yet another great year and explained it as an entertaining way to spend the day outside.

The fair, unfortunately, turned out to be at best a decent way to spend your English period, but outside of that, the alternative to attending the fair, study hall, seemed to be the better option for the majority of the people I spoke with.

Still, there were a few perks to exploring the art fair. Jewelry students sold some beautiful pieces that they made as an assignment in class, and had even entered in a jewelry-making competition.

Graphics students made t-shirt designs in class that were airbrushed at an airbrushing station set up in the dance room.

Whitely's art class also displayed a variety of work in his classroom which looked incredible. Some students were even looking to buy the piceces done by the AP Portfolio students.

While an art fair incorporating the variety of talents displayed in the art departments is a superb idea, there was definitely room for improvement.

For example, if the AP Portfolio students weren't required to buy the things for their booths and instead the majority of it was school-supplied, the prices wouldn't need to be so high.

The biggest problem I had at the fair was the lack of anything to do; you went if you happened to bring more than a dollar to school that day. You ate… and then what? The fair seemed to be missing something.

While the fair was somewhat enjoyable, the exaggerated hype from upperclassmen made it feel like a bust, and if the excitement alone made it feel like a let down for me as a freshman, then I can only imagine how the seniors felt after witnessing three, what were described to me as impeccable years, of the art fair.

The work was fantastic and it was obvious the large amount of effort that went in to it, but it felt that the exacution of the fair as a whole was below its potential.

The fair, all in all, was a heartfelt attempt at a Shaker tradition that simply seemed to fall short this year. The effort, however well intended, was simply not enough to create another perfect fair.

SUMMER CONCERTS YOU CAN'T MISS:

• Heard about the hundreds of concerts coming to Cleveland, but unsure which ones to go ahead and buy tickets for? Limelight scopes out the cream of the crop for the summer 2008 concerts.

Tuesday, June 17, 8 P.M. Kick start your summer with some breezy, rolling rhythms from the master of the surf and sand himself, **Jack Johnson**. Catch the wave that's coming all the way from Johnson's home state of Hawaii, and buy tickets for the performance at **Blossom Music Center** in Cuyahoga Falls. And for those worried about the killer gas prices that could make driving down to Blossom an economic no-no, Johnson has made his concert all about conserving fuel and being environmentally conscious. Visit Johnson's official website to set up a carpool with fellow concert-goers, learn about non-profit organizations and recycling opportunities that will be present at the concert, as well as what you can do to offset your own carbon footprint. Lawn seats are $24; pavilion seating is $39.

Image courtesy of jackjohnsonmusic.com
Information from ticketmaster.com

Saturday, August 16, 7 P.M. O.A.R. is coming once again to Cleveland, this time at the **Time Warner Cable Amphitheatre**. Order your tickets now to make sure you won't miss this summer reunion of a music revolution of reggaeish, jam-filled tunes. Tickets are available at ticketmaster.com, where an MP3 version of the band's new album, ***All Sides***, will be offered for purchase along with tickets. When you download ***All Sides***, you will receive two of the band's singles, "This Town" and "What Is Mine" within 24 hours. By June 16, you'll be able to access O.A.R.'s first radio single, "Shattered". According to ofarevolution.com, "the remaining 10 tracks from ***All Sides*** will be available on July 14, the day before the album's official release."

Image and information from ofarevolution.com

Monday, July 21, 9 P.M. Looking to avoid the predictable concert scene: too many people, too many cars, high-ticket prices and long lines for the restroom? Head to **The Grog Shop** on Coventry Road for a more intimate, hip concert space, and for an event that has, "gained a reputation for transforming anywhere…into an all-out dance party like something out of the late 70s", as their website states. The headliners of this event? The band **!!!**, or as their fans like to pronounce them verbally, "chk-chk-chk" or "pow-pow-pow." **!!!** has lively, hypnotic sounds that, "make it hard not to want [to] get down to their wild grooves," according to the Grog Shop's website. Plan on making this a definite stop on your itinerary in your quest to cure those boring Monday-night blues. Tickets are $14 at the door.

Image and information from grogshop.gs

Friday, June 13, 7 P.M. What could be better than **Kanye**, **Rihanna**, **Lupe** and **N.E.R.D** all performing at one concert? Nothing, of course. Grab some friends and take a road trip down to Cincinnati to see these Grammy-winning artists along with upcoming rappers at the **U.S. Bank Arena** for a night of intense beats. Visit ticketmaster.com for $85, $65 and $55 tickets for respective seating.

Image and information from usbankarena.com

Wednesday, July 30, 7 P.M. Don't miss the old favorite, **Dave Matthew's Band**, performing live at Blossom again. Opening for DMB is newcomer **Ingrid Michaelson**, whose quirky, light indie songs were featured on an Old Navy sweater campaign as well as on numerous episodes of *Grey's Anatomy* and *One Tree Hill*. Expect to be comforted by regular standbys from DMB, and to buy both of Michaelson's albums, ***Girls and Boys*** and ***Slow the Rain*** on iTunes when you finally get home from the sold-out concert. $40 for lawn seats on ticketmaster.com.

Image courtesy of nytimes.com
Information from ingridmichaelson.com

Compiled by Simone Duval

TOP TEN SUMMER 2008 SONGS

Courtesy of npr.org

- "Paper Planes" by M.I.A.
- "Sexy Can I" by Ray J
- "Island in the Sun" by Weezer
- "Summer Nights" by Lil' Rob
- "Are You Gonna Be My Girl" by JET
- "Milli" by Lil' Wayne
- "The Tick of Time" by The Kooks
- "Steal My Kisses" by Ben Harper
- "Say" by John Mayer
- "Love In This Club" by Usher

Infographic by John Fletcher

Compiled by Simone Duval

Shaker Speaks
06.03.08

CREATIVE PROJECTS NEEDED TO REPLACE EXHAUSTING EXAMS

Studying for second semester finals is a hassle. Between searching for a new summer swimsuit and finding a minimum wage job to pay for all of those summer activities, who has time to study? Finals can unfortunately tip over that 81 percent that you've worked hard for all semester. End of the year projects compiling a semester's worth of information in a creative way would be much more effective, because they would prevent cramming and students would get more out of them than from sitting in a three hour exam.

AND BY THE TIME HE WAS SIXTEEN WE HAD LOST OUR SON TO CAFFEINE ADDICTION, A DELICIOUS CIRCLE.
CAFE
LOVE ME LADY STARBUCK!
rite
artist

Joe Schorgl • The Shakerite

TEENS TURN TO CAFFEINE FOR BOOST

• High school supplements conflict by offering coffee in cafeteria

It used to be that you had to skip class to grab the cup of Joe that you needed to get through the day. But now that the cafeteria has started selling 12 ounce cups of coffee for $1.25, students can get their fix whenever they want.

This movement demonstrates the growing caffeine dependency within our generation, one that worries doctors, parents and even some of us. During all hours of the day, we see many of our classmates consuming either coffee or an energy drink.

New studies reveal that coffee can reduce the likelihood of Type II Diabetes, and the myth of stunted growth is simply that: a myth.

Despite these potential benefits, direct links have been found between caffeine consumption and dental decay. Studies have shown that energy drinks are three to ten times harsher on your teeth than soda, according to the Plain Dealer Health Watch on May 13, 2008. Also apparent is an overall loss of attentiveness. Excessive caffeine consumption can additionally lead to anxiety, bursts of rage, paranoia and insomnia.

Many students do not take into account the effects on their health when they choose to indulge in a caffeine-filled drink. Students use caffeine, sometimes referred to as the most widely accepted drug, to crunch in extra study hours, stay awake in class or as a boost during a long practice.

It's gotten to the point where coffee and Red Bull don't provide the desired jolt for some people, and straight caffeine shots, gum, mints and even caffeinated water have become fall-backs for students to be able to perform in their daily lives. Caffeine withdrawal, brought on by students not getting their fix or trying to wean themselves off the drug, is a serious problem for many, reaching heights reminiscent of cocaine and methadone addicts' symptoms. In fact, 30 percent of caffeine consumers fulfill the diagnostic criteria for drug dependence syndrome, according to "A sip into dangerous territory," an article published in the Monitor on Psychology journal.

> "30 percent of caffeine consumers fulfill the diagnostic criteria for drug dependence syndrome. . . "

Caffeine addiction is not as serious as dependency on some of the other substances available to high school students, but it can have distinctly negative consequences and potentially lead to addictions to other substances. Aside from all of the problems that coffee and company present, they are a tasty treat in moderation.

While most students do consume some daily amount of caffeine, the school's perpetuation of the craze is telling of the increased acceptance of this adolescent addiction. It is ironic, however, that when the school has put in so much effort this year to eliminate adolescent obesity, they would then support beverages that have been seen as similarly destructive. In a traditional sense, a school is meant to direct its students on a healthy path and the placement of coffee in such an easy-access location as the cafeteria is ethically questionable.

CAFFEINE CONTENT EXHIBITS UNHEALTHY LEVELS

- Suggested daily intake 300 mg
- Brewed coffee (7 ounces) 80-135 mg
- Espresso (1.5-2 ounces) 100 mg
- Instant coffee (7 ounces) 65-100 mg
- Decaf (6 ounces) 3-5 mg
- Tea, black (6 ounces) 70 mg
- Tea, green (6 ounces) 35 mg
- Rockstar Energy Drink (500 ml) 180 mg
- Amp Energy Drink (475 ml) 143 mg
- No-Doz (tablet) 100 mg
- Excedrin (tablet) 65 mg
- Jolt gum (piece) 12.7 mg
- Snickers Charged (bar) 60 mg

Compiled by Kelsey DeForest
Information from "Parents worry about caffeine in children's drinks," The Plain Dealer, March 11, 2008

Use your summer for more than TV

Summer is so close that we can almost feel the relaxation. That nice, long vacation is a student's favorite time of year and by now it feels like we all need a breather. I have been so lucky with my summers to both relax and have some amazing life experiences. Basking in the bliss of homework-free days is a part of everyone's summer, but I've found that pairing "chillaxing" with academic programs, volunteer jobs and internships makes summer much more meaningful and, as much as it doesn't sound that way, fun.

KELSEY DEFOREST

Between Spanish immersion programs, volunteering gigs and a short but sweet internship, my high school summers have given me résumé building skills and experiences, as well as connections in the Cleveland area.

The best part of spending your summer in an active way is definitely the people you meet and the connections you make. By taking part in national summer academic programs, I made friends from across the country and the globe.

Also in my volunteering jobs and my internship, I met a lot of "grown-ups" who have made great aids in some of the independent projects I took on this year (such as starting Students 4 Choice, the student organization promoting healthy sexuality choices that has received a ton of assistance, both in materials and advice, from Planned Parenthood and NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio).

Another great benefit is the sense of independence that comes from working in such an official environment without the constant worry of screwing up a paying job. The days of getting dressed in business casual and then riding into the office on the Rapid, surrounded by stodgy businessmen, were incredibly liberating and made me feel much more comfortable about starting a real job this year in the Cleveland area.

These experiences definitely plumped up my résumé, as well. Several of my supervisors in these positions have happily offered to be references. Also, these positions have filled out my simple résumé with jobs that look a lot more official than they ever felt.

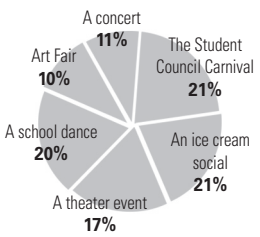
You are probably sitting there thinking, "I couldn't do something like that" or "She is just making it sound easy," but so long as you have a topic or profession you are interested in (you don't have to sign your life away to the cause), an associated organization will be very likely to accept free work. Write an email to them, explaining your situation. Attach a résumé, if you have one (even the one from the sophomore year research project). Just send it out and watch the offers roll in.

I'm not saying you should give away your summer to this kind of work, but taking two or three days from your week won't kill your fun. So use your summer. You will have a great time, and it pays off in the long run.

2007-2008 by the #'s

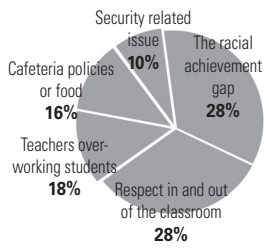
54% of students said a dance was their favorite school sponsored event of the year.

What was your least favorite school sponsored event this year?



49% of students said they would most like to see a change in the kinds and amount of food offered in the cafeteria.

What do you think is the biggest problem facing the high school?



57% of students said their least favorite renovation was the senior lounge.

49% of students said the cafeteria was their favorite renovation of the year.

Scientific poll of 101 students conducted by The Shakerite staff
margin of error +/- 10%

Infographic by Kelsey DeForest

Mail Call: Students write in on past articles regarding security, lunches, news covered

To the editor,

After reading "Shaker's Security Scoop," I just wanted to say how lucky we are to have Mr. Edge as a security guard. He talks to me as an equal and genuinely cares what people have to say. He's even given me gum when he heard I wanted some. I think that since we have so many security guards and lunch aids that we should have an assembly to meet them. This is because even though I see Mr. Edge every day, until "Shaker's Security Scoop" came out, I didn't even know his name.

Anonymous

DEAR EDITOR,

I don't like the Shakerite newspaper because it doesn't interest me and you talk about boring, unimportant things. Here is a list of things you should talk about in the Shakerite to make it more interesting to everyone.

1. Iraq
2. Teachers getting on students' nerves
3. Homicides in Cleveland
4. Gang violence in Shaker
5. Homosexuality
6. Bad food
7. Bad administration
8. Overworked by teachers
9. Different school day schedule
10. School ran like a juvenile detention center
11. Stereotyping by security guards
12. Different consequences for different races
13. Segregation in school

DEMETRIUS BANKS

Dear newspaper editor,

The article entitled "Cafeteria cuts- the controversy continues," is a problem for my fellow classmates and I. The fact that the portions are so little, and the price is still the same is [ridiculous]! I don't understand how our lunch is supposed to be so healthy, but for breakfast Pop tarts, waffles, and all that other junk is still being served. Also, there are a lot of students that get free lunch, and they're obviously getting free lunch for a reason (family has low income). So for them to come to school, maybe haven't eaten since the night before or that morning, wanting something to eat, and getting a whole bunch of nothing is horrible. And for the people that buy their lunch are paying $2.50 almost everyday are getting ripped off! I understand that the lunch people are trying to cut down on proportions because of it being the leading (or one of) cause of child obesity. But I think there should be large proportions of healthy foods, than smaller proportions of unhealthy food! Like pasta, salad, grilled, bake or even broiled! Something should happen. Something soon. Another thing is, what's the point of extending the cafeteria, if students won't even eat the lunch.

Lauren Benton

letter to the editor

We want to hear from you

Send your feedback on our articles, school policies or anything that's on your mind as letters to the editor to shakerite@shaker.org or drop them off in Room 229.

heard in the halls

"I know I'm going to smoke weed when I'm a mom, because alcohol is just not gonna cut it." 5/21

Student One: "Do you remember that show Degrassi?"
Student Two: "Yea, wasn't it like Mardi Gras?" 5/13

"Eww . . . why is he oozing?" 5/20

Student One: "That's thick."
Student Two: "Like my body."
Student One: "Not mine!" 5/14

"If you wanna make a baby soon, that's cool with me." 5/21

SENIORS' PROJECTS CREATIVE, ENRICHING

BY COLIN JACKSON
THE BEAT EDITOR

As the school year comes to an end and the flowers on the oval begin to bloom, the front lawn inhabitants return to their respective positions and the senior class abandons their seats in the classroom to embark upon a four week adventure known as Senior Project.

"It's really one of the highlights of this year for me, besides prom and graduation, of course," said senior Thomas Bostwick. He joins many Shaker seniors who opted to participate in an independent study project as an alternative to the regular, mundane school day.

Students have the choice to do almost anything from apprenticing at a the Plain Dealer to spackling a SHHS ceiling, as long as it is approved by a board of faculty members.

Walter Slovikowski, head of the Senior Project committee, is responsible for the approval of all senior projects.

"A lot of the projects are redone," says Slovikowski, "so normally we look to the past for an idea of how well a project will work." Projects like murals and teaching assistants are common. However, projects that involve outside individuals cooperation require more consideration.

For senior Natalie Mercer, who is collaborating with Bostwick, getting their project approved may have been the most difficult part of the process. "It was really exciting finally getting it approved, " said Mercer. "It felt good to get over the first hurdle," she said.

The Mercer-Bostwick team is creating a "living sculpture," as they call it. The structure incorporates a living tree: the one in the school's courtyard. Within its branches five wooden boxes are intertwined with each other and the living plant.

Not all senior projects involve artwork. Some choose to work elsewhere in the district as assistants to Shaker Heights City School employees. Onaway is the temporary home to Shaker seniors and Ultimate Frisbee co-captains Donnie Petera and Andrew Steenbergh, who are working under physical education teacher Sally Davros. The two have instruct the children in Ultimate Frisbee.

Steenbergh, former Little Gym athletic consultant to a toddler group, finds joy in his interaction with the youth. "I really enjoy working with the kids," he said. Most of all, Steenbergh enjoys the enthusiasm children bring to everything they do.

"The energy the [children] bring to Ultimate Frisbee is amazing."

Senior Project, in its long history, has quickly become a rite of passage for Shaker graduates. Mercer views Senior Project as the only proper way to end her high school experience.

"If I didn't do this senior project, I would have just ended my senior year just walking out the door," she said.

John Fletcher•The Shakerite

"[Project is] really one of the highlights of this year for me, besides prom and graduation, of course.
Thomas Bostwick
Senior

NATALIE MERCER AND Thomas Bostwick work on "Ascending Boxes." Unlike most artistic projects, the sculpture is "living" because it intertwines the boxes and plant.

TOO MUCH HOMEWORK!..... CLUBS!..... MUSIC LESSONS!.....ATHLETICS!.....

FINALLY A DRIVING SCHOOL THAT ALLOWS FLEXIBILITY AND

AN ESTABLISHED QUALITY PROGRAM

SUMMER "MIX AND MATCH" 2008

The OVERBEKE School of Driving provides the flexibility high school students require to cope with their busy schedules. Use the following schedule to custom design your own program. All you have to do is find a day to attend each of the 10 classes. The classes don't have to be taken in chronological order. Hey....you could start with #7, then take #4. You must, however, attend each of the 10 classes. The month you take each class or the order you decide is totally up to you. For registration purposes our office only needs to know the month you plan to attend your first class, NOT your entire 10 class schedule. To schedule simply put a check next to the sessions that will fit into your schedule and register with our office or go on line. Remember.....only one class per day please!

EVENING CLASSES MEET AT ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL - 7:00 P.M
MORNING CLASSES MEET AT BEAUMNT SCHOOL - 9:30 A.M.

	JUNE Beaumont	JUNE Orange HS	JULY Orange HS	AUGUST Orange HS
LESSON #1	___ Mon , 16th	___Wed, 11th	___ Tues 8th	___ Mon 4th
LESSON #2	___ Tues , 17th	___ Thur 12th	___ Wed 9th	___ Tues, 5th
LESSON #3	___ Wed , 18th	___ Mon, 16th	___ Thur, 10th	___ Wed, 6th
LESSON #4	___ Thur 19th	___ Tues, 17th	___ Mon, 14th	___ Thur, 7th
LESSON #5	___ Fri, 20th	___ Wed 18th	___ Tues 15th	___ Mon , 11th
LESSON #6	___ Mon 23rd	___ Thur19th	___ Wed , 16th	___ Tues, 12th
LESSON #7	___ Tues, 24th	___ Mon 23rd	___ Thu , 17th	___ Wed , 13th
LESSON #8	___ Wed, 25th	___ Tues, 24th	___ Mon 21st	___ Thur , 14th
LESSON #9	___ Thur, 26th	___ Wed, 25th	___ Tues 22nd	___ Mon 18th
LESSON #10	___ Fri, 27th	___ Thur 26th	___ Wed , 23rd	___ Tues , 19th

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HANDING IT TO THE HAND HYSTERIA

• The hand gesture that has captivated and decieved hundreds of minds reaches craze-level popularity

BY JOSH CURRY
MANAGING EDITOR

Nobody knows what it's called. Nobody knows where it's from. But everybody knows what it is when they see it.

The question is , what is it? Simple answer: A meaningless hand gesture.

But it is so much more.

Forming it requires little talent. Step one: Stretch out your arm in any open area with your palm up. Step two: Bring the tips of your fingers together to form a small cup-like shape. And finally, step three: Make someone look at your hand.

When someone looks at your hand, they have officially been "got" and must live with the shame for the rest of their lives. This final step is by far the most important, because if nobody notices your hand, then the effort is all for naught.

Which leads to the next question: Why do students do it? Most students express an intense pleasure that comes with "getting" their classmates with their hand gesture.

Junior Sam Thompson, who "gets" at least one classmate per period, describes a similar joy.

"I get pleasure from acts of trickery and deception," Thompson said. "I feel pure ecstasy; a sublime feeling. It starts below the waist and works its way up."

Most students who participate target their friends and other classmates.

"My friends and I try to 'get' each other. It's like a game," sophomore Armand Holmes said.

Thompson ventures beyond people he knows. "My main targets are the easiest targets. Such targets include toddlers, infants, and small children," Thompson said. "I also enjoy tricking people of the older generation, between the ages of 50 and 70. They have no idea what's going on."

Colin Jackson• The Shakerite

When such innocent targets are "got," they do not share the joy of those who are doing the "getting." Instead there is a general feeling of frustration and annoyance toward their "immature" classmates.

"It's funny to see people's reactions," junior A.J. Woolen said. "A lot of people get mad when you get them."

"I hate it," freshman Mackenzie Taylor said. "It's stupid and there's no point. It doesn't mean anything." Junior Sophia Bellin-Warren feels like her classmates disrespect her. "It makes me mad," she said.

"I don't understand why they feel the constant need to put me down to make themselves feel better."

Even Thompson, an avid "getter," is frustrated when he is "got."

"It puts me in my place and reminds me, that even at the top of your game, you can still get got at any time," Thompson said.

Most devoted participants have developed their own techniques.

"The best opportunity for getting people is when they ask for a dollar," Woolen said. "Then you reach in your pocket and pretend to take out money, but instead you pull out your hand and they get sawds."

Junior Amadou Gueye explained the role of eye contact in "getting" people. "Once you have eye contact with someone, you can get them no matter what," Geuye said. "You just look at them, then look down at your hand and they have to look down also. It's awesome."

While the student body is the chief propagator of the practice, it has also sparked the attention of some teachers.

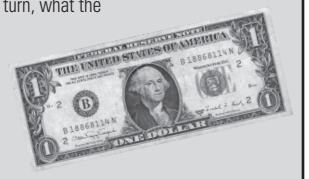
"My English teacher hates when kids do it in her class," sophomore Bridget Mearns said. "Kids do it and it disrupts the whole class."

History teacher Timothy Mitchell has actually become a regular participant in the nameless activity. "My students kept on getting, me and I didn't know what it meant," Mitchell said.

In an attempt to understand "it," he began to attempt to "get" his students. "It was a sharp learning curve, but I can occasionally get my class now," He said. "For example, I'll tell them I have their exams and present them with my hand instead."

top 5 TECHNIQUES TO GET YOUR FRIENDS

1. DOLLAR BILL
This classic "want this" move involves reaching into one's own pocket, faking the victim into believing he or she is recieving a dollar bill. In turn, what the victim will recieve is a hand full of "THIS"



2. SHOULDER TAP
Misdirection and trickery at it's best, the shoulder tap involves a tap on a shoulder opposite oneself. When the person turns back around they will be greeted by five dirty digits.

3. DON'T STEP IN THAT
This move is perfect for all of those people who love shoes; some will go to great engths to protect a fresh pair. A simple point at the ground followed by the presentation of the hand ends in laughter for all.

4. PET HAMSTER
Pets are not allowed in school, therefore the phrase "You want to pet my hamster?" will excite any unsuspecting student. Little do they know, the only thing they will be petting is a few furry fingers.

5. ELBOW GRAB
A veteran move, the elbow grab requires a great deal of cunning. The prankster must silently enter the victim's immediate vincinity and gently stroke his or her elbow. The disturbed victim has no choice but to look down upon a closed claw.

Compiled by Colin Jackson

> "My main targets are the easiest targets. Such targets include toddlers, infants and small children."
>
> Sam Thompson
> Junior

Summer volunteering in Shaker satisfies students, recipients

BY TAYLOR SMITH
THE BEAT EDITOR

Whether you are looking to give back to your community, wanting to get involved or too young to get a job, volunteering is a good way to help others in need without expecting anything in return.

Junior Joanie Clougherty is involved in year-round volunteer programs. Over the summer, she attends a camp in the area called Teens Learning to Connect, TLC, which allows students to participate in a total of twenty volunteer hours.

Clougherty has been involved with this program for six years now and loves it. "It feels really good that I can help somebody else and it makes them feel good too," Clougherty said. Many places in the Cleveland area offer volunteering opportunities for teens.

The Nature Center is a prime example of a place that has a wide variety of available jobs. Currently, over 100 people volunteer there, according to Volunteer Coordinator Marissa Patsey.

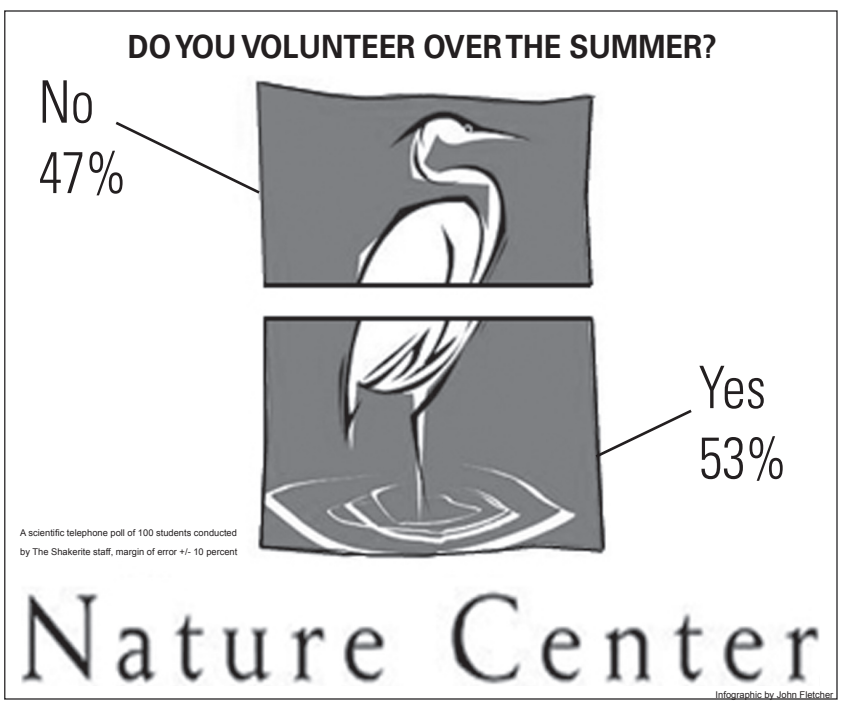
Volunteers do things such as helping maintain the Nature Center's grounds by cleaning the trails and raising money at fundraisers. Providing a flexible schedule, they are always happy to recieve extra help.

Students who have an interest in animals may like to volunteer at Fieldstone Therapeutic Riding Center. Fieldstone is a non-profit organization that provides children with disabilities the chance to horseback ride. Sophomore Marisa Vavruska volunteered at Fieldstone during the summer of 2007. Over the past year, she has continued to volunteer and has found that it is the perfect way to spend her time.

"It is important to volunteer because not only are you giving back to others, but you learn important traits, such as empathy and compassion," Vavruska said.

The Animal Protective Leauge allows students to volunteer around animals other than just horses. At the APL, people are needed to help out with a variety of tasks to help save animals' lives. At the APL, students can play with animals and make them "adoptable," or can help out with office work, such as setting up volunteer events or helping to find adoptive parents for animals.

Whether it be working in Cleveland, around Shaker, or even in neighborhood organizations, volunteering is a great way to spend one's summer. "If everyone helped volunteer, I think things would be a lot easier for everyone," Clougherty said.


DO YOU VOLUNTEER OVER THE SUMMER?
No
47%
Yes
53%
A scientific telephone poll of 100 students conducted by The Shakerite staff, margin of error +/- 10 percent
Nature Center
Infographic by John Fletcher

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New coach, good times, bad record for girls' lacrosse

BY PATRICK POHLMAN
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

While their 4-6-1 record seems to be nothing special, the girls' lacrosse team accomplished so much more this season: learning to play together and enjoying it.

"I think the season went well and the girls were a lot of fun to play with," said senior attack Lisa Buffo.

Despite all the fun, the Lady Raiders tried their best to compete with the problems of changes in positions and coaching style.

"It was hard because of the new coaching staff and the transition from having the same coach for six years to having a different one senior year, with different positions and coaching styles," said senior captain and center Maggie O'Connor. They had tough losses to Medina, Hathaway Brown and Cleveland Heights, and almost pulled out a win against Laurel, whom they tied in overtime.

"We should have beaten Heights; we didn't play our best that game," O'Connor said. She was a big contributor to the team as the leader in goals and points. The girls almost beat the second seed Hudson Explorers in a close match, but came up short at the end, losing by one point.

"It was a huge accomplishment almost beating them," said senior defender Lauren Lewis.

As for next year, sophomore defender Heather Buffo said, "I really don't know how next year is going to know, were losing some great players, but I think JV is improving well enough to help us build a team."

> "It was hard because of the new coaching staff and the transition from having the same coach for six years to having a different one senior year, with different positions and coaching styles."
>
> Maggie O'Conner
> Captain

7-9-2
5TH IN LEL

Phooto courtesy of Andrew Hubbard

THE SHAKER BENCH looks on as senior midfielder Neil Nash drives on a Cleveland Heights defender. The Raiders lost to the Tigers during the regular season 16-11, but redemed themselves when they beat them 13-9 May 22 in their opening playoff game. The Raiders lost in a close game to Hudson in the second round of the playoffs on Saturday May 24.

MEN'S LACROSSE FIGHTS THROUGH ANOTHER SEASON, NEW COACH

BY PATRICK POHLMAN
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

The men's lacrosse team has not had an easy ride the past four years, and having a new coach each year makes it challenging to build team chemistry.

It is tough on a team to get used so many different coaching styles. "The coach has a huge impact on the aspect of team chemistry," said senior captain and midfielder Neil Nash.

Senior captain and long stick midfielder Sam Weir agreed that the lack of a consistent coach has made the team much more independent. A lot of the team is used to coaching themselves by now," he said.

Despite this challenge, the team finally came together towards the end of the season, as the Raiders ended the season 4-10 and 1-7 in the region.

5-10
9TH IN REGION

The team had impressive wins against Westlake and Chagrin Falls and Cleveland Heights in the first round of the playoffs. While the talent has been there this season, the team just hasn't had the chemistry to perform when it counts.

"Although the team lost a few players during the season, the team benefited because the people who cared were there," said head coach Gus Stager. "The guys who wanted to be there came together at the end of the season."

Coach Stager has indicated that he is in it for the long haul. "I'm looking forward to being around and helping the team grow," he said. Stager is also trying to find additional coaches for next year, as well as starting a fifth and sixth grade program at Woodbury in the hope of involving kids earlier.

> "I'm looking forward to being around and helping the team grow."
>
> Gus Stager
> Coach

Rugby's season results in nine league wins, championship game appearance

BY TOM O'NIELL
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

Despite not receiving any funding from the school, the Rugby Club put together a very impressive season.

Finishing 9-2 overall, 9-1 in their league, the team worked through the many obstacles of the season, like having to play their home games at the Cuyahoga County Airport, a 20 minute drive from the school.

The team also did not have access to bussing for these games, so they often crammed into upperclassmen's cars to get there.

Despite these difficult conditions, the players stayed positive. Theo Albano, a sophomore wing for the team, said that, while not receiving funding from the school is frustrating, the team did a great job staying together.

"The season went real well," Albano said.

He also saw a huge improvement after a tough season last year. "We're a lot more organized, and a lot more committed," he said.

Junior scrum-half Broc Ross agreed with Albano's assessment "We could have done better, but I thought we did pretty well".

The team is hoping to finish this year strong because they are losing seven seniors next year

The experienced team finished second in their division and excelled in the city championships, including wins over St. Edwards and Hudson.

However, the team was originally forced to forfeit in the championship game because it was scheduled for the same night as prom. Luckily, the Raiders caught a break when the game was canceled for the harsh weather conditions.

This gift from Mother Nature gave the Raiders a second chance to play St. Ignatius in the championship game May 28.

9-2
9-1
IN
LEAGUE

MEN'S TENNIS TEAM PILOTED BY STAR FRESHMEN

BY ABBY SCHILLER
THIS MONTH EDITOR

Shaker tennis has always had a great reputation and this year was no exception. The boys' team made a smooth transition from long time coach Al Slawson, who retired last year after over 20 years of coaching, to their new coach, Danny Klein.

Klein, a Shaker alum who had previously only been a private coach, was interested in coaching the boys this year because he thought it would be a good opportunity, "I was excited to work in a team environment and I knew Shaker had a lot of talent," Klein said.

Some of the strongest talent on the team this year came from two freshmen, Tommy Marx and David Gabriel, who played first and second singles respectively. Gabriel, who's been playing for about eight years, says he has really enjoyed playing for Shaker this year. He also enjoyed working with Klein.

"He's a great coach," said Gabriel.

Senior captain Aaron Robbins agrees "Danny's really done a lot for our tennis, we've all improved as players," he said.

Robbins, who plays first doubles with fellow senior captain Greg Woyczynski (commonly referred to as Wojo), has had a great season both on and off the court.

"Being a captain has been fun with all the young talent and my co-captains and playing with Wojo has been great," said Robbins. As of press time, the team had a record of 16-2, which met Wojo's expectations.

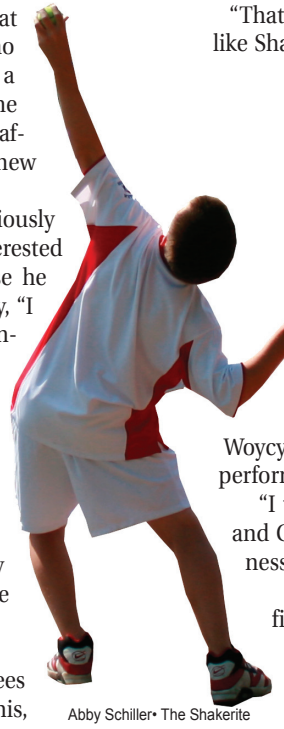
"That kind of record is expected from a legacy like Shaker tennis," Wojo said. In addition to having a phenomenal season, as of press time the boys only had to defeat Walsh, a team that they've already defeated this season, to make it to the State tournament as a team. If they do go to states, Klein believes the team will perform well.

"If our team plays well and together as a team, we have as good a chance as anyone," said Klein.

As far as next year goes, the team will lose their three current captains, Robbins, Woycynski and Matt Buder-Shapiro, but should still perform well.

"I think the team will still be good, Nic [Howe] and Gabe [Pincus] will step up, but Wojo's beastliness is a tough loss" said Robbins.

Coach Klein agrees that while it will be difficult losing the seniors the team will work it out. "We'll have to put in work all year. We'll sacrifice early mornings and late nights if we have to," Klein said.



Abby Schiller• The Shakerite

16-2
LEL CHAMPIONS

Abby Schiller• The Shakerite

FRESHMAN DAVID GABRIEL strikes the ball during a warm-up session with teammate Tommy Marx. Gabriel won a deciding match to join Marx in the state tournament May 24. The two were a driving force throughout the season.

Track teams fall short of expectations despite talent

• Junior standouts Perez Ashford and Keith Cleveland lead men

BY TOM O'NEILL
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

The men's track team has drawn upon some strong juniors and underclassmen talent this year in their undefeated season. Led by juniors Perez Ashford and Keith Cleveland, the team has headed into districts confident of success.

These talented juniors left their mark on the underclassmen, including sophomore long jumper Matt Balester.

"We all get along really well, and probably Keith Cleveland will be going Division One next year," Balester said. Balester was also impressed with the help he received from the five coaches on the staff. "They've all been really good and support us all a lot," he said.

Like many of the runners on the team who play football in the spring, a number of the coaches spend some of their time as football coaches, including head coach Anthony Watkins and Coach Mike Summers.

The team progressed steadily over the year in tournaments, including a third place finish at the Case Classic High School Invitational to start the year. Cleveland also shined in this event earning third place overall in the 400-meter dash. He also helped the team earn fifth place overall in the 4x400.

Losing only one senior while retaining twenty juniors makes next year's goals even higher.

The team has progressed throughout the year and is confident they will finish strong. They have set high goals for themselves and hope to follow through with many of these aspirations.

4-0
3RD IN LEL

John Fletcher • The Shakerite

SOPHOMORE MATT BALESTER and junior Marqutte Joiner-Shaw warm up before a home meet. Despite their third place finish in the LEL, the Raiders had outstanding performances from talented runners.

• Injuries derail women's hopes

BY TOM O'NEILL
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

The girls' track team limped their way through an injury-plagued season and didn't get a lot of the results they were looking for. Led by senior Shaniqua McGinnis, who has signed a letter of intent to The Ohio State University, the Raiders were looking to defend their three consecutive Division 1 wins at states in the 4x400-meter relay team. The team however had a difficult time with nagging injuries, including injuries to McGinnis. Despite the team suffering one of the worst seasons in recent memories in terms of injuries, they were able to do very well in their dual-meets between conference teams. Despite the impressive marks, sophomore runner Bridget Mearns attributes much of the success to the weak conference. "Everyone in our conference is pretty bad" Mearns said.

The injuries really disappointed the seniors, who had their last chance to finish their careers strong. This was the last year for strong sprinting as the majority of the underclassmen runners are all in middle distance running, including the 800-meter and the mile. Despite the injuries, the team stayed close, and did not suffer any problems regarding team chemistry. A lot of that has to be credited to beloved coach Henry Woodard.

The team was especially disappointed with the final season results after starting off the year strong with a third place in the Case Classic High School Indoor Invitational. At this meet the Raiders placed second overall in the 4x400-meter dash and Mcginnis placed first and third in the 400 and 200-meter dash, respectively. Although the injuries were an incredible disappointment the team is eager to come back strong next year.

3-4
4TH IN LEL

STAR OARSWOMEN ROW FOR SILVER

Sophomores Hattie Gemerchak and Cara Murphy won silver in the junior double race at Junior Scholastic National Rowing Championships in Oak Ridge, Tennessee May 23-24. The two were the first Shaker rowers to make it to nationals in the decade-long history of the team. A second group of rowers, junior Diana Jack, sophomore Katie Hornick and freshman Bailey Breaux joined Gemerchak and Murphy at the Midwest Scholastic Rowing Championships in Cincinnati, Ohio, but did not advance to the Nationals.

Raider Zone
06.03.08

SOFTBALL WINS LAKE ERIE LEAGUE

• Record-breaking hitting and skilled pitching earns the team their first LEL championship title in over ten years

BY TOM O'NEILL
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

The Lake Division champion softball team did not disappoint in their quest to be among the best in the area.

They finished with a 16-4 regular season record as well as a 9-2 mark in their league, impressing head coach James Schmidt as they claimed their first Lake Erie League championship since 1996.

Schmidt could hardly find the words to express how it felt winning the Lake Erie League.

"I was just very happy for the girls. They worked hard and deserved it," Schmidt said. "It was the best season in recent memory, at least fourteen years [and now] sectional champions, regional finalists."

Junior pitcher Kathy Peter was also impressed with the Raiders success.

"I was really proud of how we did," she said. The Raiders blew past their competition on their way to first place, including two major wins over the second place finisher, Mentor Cardinals.

The team displayed their all-around talent in a win against Cleveland Heights on May 9, which yet again demonstrated Peter's worth to the team.

Peter not only set a statewide homerun record for hitting at least one homerun in each of six consecutive games, but she also threw a perfect game, as the Raiders beat the Tigers 12-0.

Despite the magnitude of her new homerun record, Peter was more surprised than anything else when she finally realized that she was in the running to break it.

"I didn't know about the record until I had tied it," she said.

Peter was actually surprised she was close to a hitting record, for she has long seen herself as a better pitcher.

Peter kept up that consistency throughout the year, even against the top teams in the LEL as she posted a 14-3 record, as well as, anchoring the Raider offense.

Individual performances were not the only thing the Raiders counted on this season. They also used strong team chemistry to overwhelm opponents.

"We laugh together, cheer together, fight together, and cry together. Without each and every one of us working our best and wanting to win, we wouldn't be who we are," said freshman right fielder Mackenzie Taylor.

According to Schmidt, the more tangible things critical to the Raider's success were "pitching, team defense, and timely hitting. In the games we lost, we didn't do one of those things well."

The team hopes to continue its winning streak deep into the playoffs. Although these Raiders did better than any softball team in more than a decade, they hope to have an even better season next year.

The team is only losing three seniors and has seven juniors ready to step up and take the Raiders to new heights and, hopefully, new records.

16-4
LEL CHAMPIONS

Photo courtesy of Donna Polk

KATHY PETER EYES the competition just before a pitch in a big win for the Raiders. Peter was awarded with an all LEL selection and threw at least two perfect games during the reguluar season.

John Fletcher • The Shakerite

JUNIOR CAPTAIN JAKE Miller winds up at the plate before hitting a single against Admiral King. Unfortunately, the Raiders lost to Admiral King. Miller is a third year returning starter for the Raiders.

Raiders suffer playoff disappointment despite strong defense and pitching

BY PATRICK POHLMAN
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

Despite good tries and close calls, the baseball team had a disappointing season this year. Losing a lot of close games and missing runs when it truly counted ended up seriously hurting them.

The team still played well and was lead by star senior pitcher River McWilliams who earned a D-I baseball scholarship to the University at Buffalo. McWilliams was awarded with LEL player of the year, Mizuno all-Ohio team and all district.

"Our record didn't show it, but we did have a fairly good season," said junior pitcher and left fielder Jake Miller. There were also a lot of players who stepped up to show Coach Mike Babinec what the team was truly capable of. "A lot of the kids improved from where they were at last year," said Babinec.

5-14
4TH IN LEL

Sophomore middle infielder Kevin Verne agrees with Miller saying, "There were some smaller feats accomplished throughout the year, such as almost beating Eds." The team put up a strong fight against the higher seeded St. Edwards, losing only by two in a 13-11 game.

"We were pleased with our defense and pitching. We could have worked better on execution, bunting, base running and aggressiveness," Babinec said.

The team had a few disappointing losses, especially in the opening playoff round against Painesville Riverside, losing 1-0 on a walk-off hit in the bottom of the seventh. "Our performance in the LEL and our playoff loss were very disappointing," said Verne.

Despite the frustrations and challenges, the Raiders had a couple of big wins against Cleveland Heights late in the season. They also won a game in Florida during their annual spring break trip against Wheaton Academy, the first victory in three years against them.

Next year the team expects to do better. Miller said if the team starts to believe in themselves from the beginning of the season and goes into every game with a positive attitude they will do a lot better next year in the LEL and the playoffs.

"The team needs to do all the little things right next year. If we get all of the fundamentals down, then we will have a successful season," Miller said.